Casses 4: 2525 vc 0 00 42843 24 kl Pl V DD occ meen 1.8-2 File ite 0 10 27/27 2525 Paggeg 4 of 65939

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

V.

LETTIRE CONSTRUCTION CORP.; LETTIRE 124TH STREET LLC, UBC CHESTNUT COMMONS LLC; UBC SUMNER LLC, EAST 124TH STREET LLC; CHESTNUT COMMONS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FUND CORP.; and MHANY MANAGEMENT, INC.,

Defendants.

25 Civ. 483 ()

CONSENT DECREE AS TO EAST 124TH STREET LLC

INTRODUCTION

This Consent Decree is entered into between plaintiff the United States of America (the "United States") and defendant, East 124th Street LLC ("East 124th") concerning the building known as the Tapestry and located at 245 East 124th Street in Manhattan (the "Tapestry");

WHEREAS, the United States is bringing the above-captioned action (the "Action") to enforce provisions of the Fair Housing Act ("FHA"), codified at 42 U.S.C. §§ 3601–3619. Specifically, the United States' complaint in this Action alleges that East 124th has denied rights to a group of persons in a manner raising an issue of general public performance, in that the Tapestry was not designed with the features of accessible and adaptive design and construction required by the FHA, 42 U.S.C. § 3604(f)(3)(c);

WHEREAS, the Tapestry is subject to the accessible design and construction requirements of the FHA, 42 U.S.C. § 3604(f)(3)(c);

WHEREAS, defendant, East 124th, is the owner of the Tapestry;

A. Relevant Requirements of the Fair Housing Act

WHEREAS, the FHA provides that residential buildings that are designed and constructed for first occupancy after March 13, 1991, and which have four or more dwelling units and one or more elevators, are Covered Multifamily Dwellings and must include certain basic features of accessible design as set forth in 42 U.S.C. §§ 3604(f)(3)(C) and (f)(7)(A);

WHEREAS, the accessible and adaptive design provisions of the FHA require that for Covered Multifamily Dwellings: (i) the public use and common use portions of such dwellings are readily accessible to and usable by persons with a disability; (ii) all the doors designed to allow passage into and within all premises within such dwellings are sufficiently wide to allow passage by persons with a disability using wheelchairs; (iii) all premises within such dwellings contain the following features of adaptive design: (I) an accessible route into and through the dwelling; (II) light switches, electrical outlets, thermostats, and other environmental controls in accessible locations; (III) reinforcements in bathroom walls to allow later installation of grab bars; and (IV) usable kitchens and bathrooms such that an individual using a wheelchair can maneuver about the space. 42 U.S.C. § 3604(f)(3)(c) (these provisions and features are referred to herein as the "Accessible Design Requirements");

B. Conditions at the Tapestry

WHEREAS, the Tapestry is a 12-story residential apartment complex located at 245 East 124th Street in Manhattan, designed and constructed for first occupancy in 2009. The Tapestry contains 185 rental units and has elevator access. The public and common features at the Tapestry include, *inter alia*, a lobby, a fitness center, and a bicycle storage room;

WHEREAS an inspection of the Tapestry identified, *inter alia*, the following conditions at the Tapestry that the United States alleges fail to meet the Accessible Design Requirements:

a. Excessively high counter at the sign-in desk in the lobby;

- b. Excessively high thresholds at the entrance to the outdoor terrace;
- c. Mailboxes mounted too high to accommodate persons who use wheelchairs;
- d. Insufficiently wide doors to terraces from individual units;
- e. Excessively high thresholds at doorways to bathrooms in individual units;
- f. Insufficient clear floor space in bathrooms in individual units;
- g. Insufficiently wide maneuvering space within kitchens in individual units; and
- h. Inaccessible location of environmental controls in individual units.

C. Agreement of the Parties to this Consent Decree

WHEREAS, the United States and East 124th (collectively, the "Parties") agree that this Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this case pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1345, and 42 U.S.C. § 3614(a); and

WHEREAS, East 124th agrees to make modifications to the Tapestry as set forth herein.

IT IS HEREBY AGREED, by and between the Parties, as follows:

I. COMPLIANCE WITH THE FHA

1. East 124th and its officers, employees, agents, successors, and assigns, and all other persons in active concert or participation with East 124th, agree that they will not discriminate on the basis of disability as prohibited by the FHA, 42 U.S.C. § 3604.

II. RETROFITS AT THE TAPESTRY

2. The United States alleges that the Tapestry was not designed or constructed in accordance with the FHA or the Fair Housing Accessibility Guidelines, Design Guidelines for Accessible/Adaptable Dwellings, 56 Fed. Reg. 9472 (Mar. 6, 1991) (the "Guidelines"). Without admitting liability for the design and/or construction of the Tapestry, East 124th agrees to address the conditions alleged to be FHA violations as set forth in **Appendices A-1 and A-2**.

Casses 2525 vc 000 4848 24 kl 24 V Document 1.8-2 File ited 1027/2525 Pageg 4 4 fo 499

A. Modifications to the Public and Common Use Areas

- 3. As soon as reasonably possible, but no later than six (6) months after the entry of this Consent Decree by the Court, East 124th shall use commercially reasonable efforts to finish all the retrofits listed in **Appendix A-1**. East 124th shall make reasonable efforts to minimize inconvenience to residents of the Tapestry in making such retrofits.
- 4. Within thirty (30) days of the entry of this Consent Decree, East 124th shall post a written notice on the lobby bulletin board at the Tapestry stating that the common area retrofits required under this Consent Decree will be performed in the public and common use areas at the Tapestry. Such notice shall conform to **Appendix B**.
- 5. East 124th shall certify to the United States in writing that the notices required by Paragraph 4 have been posted.

B. Modifications to Dwelling Unit Interiors

- 6. For each unit at the Tapestry listed in <u>Appendix A-2</u>, East 124th shall use commercially reasonable efforts to finish the retrofits listed therein no later than two (2) years from the entry of this Consent Decree (unless otherwise specified in <u>Appendix A-2</u>) or, as to retrofits to be made upon request of a resident, no later than three (3) months after the request. East 124th shall make reasonable efforts to minimize inconvenience to residents in making such retrofits.
- 7. Within sixty (60) days from the date of the entry of this Consent Decree, East 124th shall provide by electronic means a notice to each resident who resides in an individual dwelling unit that is subject to being retrofitted at the Tapestry per <u>Appendix A-2</u> that: (1) East 124th has agreed to retrofit certain features of the units to make them more accessible; (2) the retrofits set forth in <u>Appendix A-2</u> will be commenced within sixty (60) days after the notice is electronically delivered (unless otherwise specified in <u>Appendix A-2</u>) or, as to retrofits to be made upon request

Casasa: 2525 ve 0 0 0 0 2 2 ANAV Document 1 2 - 2 File te 6 10 2 7 2 12 5 Pagag 5 5 f o 199

of a resident of the units, within sixty (60) days of written request by the resident; (3) East 124th will use commercially reasonable efforts to complete the retrofits within three (3) months after commencement, unless otherwise specified in this Consent Decree; and (4) the scheduling of the retrofits will take into account the preferences and convenience of the resident and that the reasonable costs of relocation, if necessary, will be provided in advance. The notice shall be substantially in the form of **Appendix C**.

8. East 124th shall certify to the United States in writing that the notices described in **Paragraph 7** have been distributed and shall specify the manner in which they were distributed, within thirty (30) days after such distribution. Such certification shall include the names and addresses of the persons to whom the notices were distributed.

C. Perpetual Lease Provision

9. East 124th shall amend all existing leases at the Tapestry to include, and shall append to all future leases, an "Accessibility Modification Rider" in the form attached as **Appendix D**. The Accessibility Modification Rider shall reflect the fact that East 124th will provide any retrofit listed in **Appendix A-2** upon the request of any current or future tenant of the Tapestry, in perpetuity. The Accessibility Modification Rider shall be provided to all prospective tenants upon touring or viewing a dwelling unit at the Tapestry. Furthermore, the United States may, from time to time, provide the Accessibility Modification Rider to state and local agencies or public interest organizations serving the needs of people with disabilities. Nothing in this Paragraph or the Accessibility Modification Rider shall relieve East 124th of any obligation to take the corrective actions and/or perform the retrofits described in **Appendix A-1**, and **Appendix A-2** of this Consent Decree.

Casses 4: 2525 vc 0 00 00 00 2848 244 14 V DD comment 1.8-2 File ite 6 10 27/12 152 5 Paggerg 6 6 for 1939

III. NO ADVERSE ACTION

10. Neither present nor future residents of the Tapestry may be charged any additional rent, deposit, fee, or other consideration for the units in which retrofits are or may be implemented because of completed, contemplated, or possible retrofits required under this Consent Decree. East 124th shall take no adverse action against any present or future resident of the Tapestry because such person requests to have his or her apartment, or prospective apartment, modified in accordance with this Consent Decree. Nothing in this Paragraph, however, shall restrict or impede East 124th's rights with respect to any of the Tapestry that is the subject of this Consent Decree to continue, in a non-discriminatory manner, to lawfully establish and raise rents consistent with their business goals and obligations and with market conditions, including increasing rents after the expiration of a current lease due to an increase in the market value of the unit, whether or not such increase is on account of upgrades to such unit (other than retrofits required under this Consent Decree) done at or about the same time as retrofits required under this Consent Decree. Performance of the retrofits required by the terms of this Consent Decree does not constitute a diminution in services provided at the Tapestry.

IV. IMPEDIMENTS TO PERFORMANCE

11. In the event that any act or omission beyond East 124th's control and occurring without its fault or negligence affects the performance of any requirement in <u>Section II</u> of this Consent Decree, the Parties shall endeavor, in good faith, to determine whether modifications to this Consent Decree are necessary. In particular, if a resident at the Tapestry refuses (whether lawfully or not) to allow a retrofit or to vacate a unit such that a retrofit required to be made under this Consent Decree may not be made, East 124th shall not have any obligation to perform the retrofit. East 124th shall take reasonable measures to secure a resident's consent and document for the United States the efforts it made, and the reason(s) given for refusal. Nothing herein shall be

construed as requiring East 124th to bring a lawsuit against a resident who refuses to allow East 124th to perform a retrofit to that resident's unit as specified in <u>Section II</u> of this Consent Decree; and nothing herein shall be construed as requiring East 124th to perform any act beyond the expiration of this Consent Decree except with respect to work commenced prior to such expiration, and the Accessibility Modification Rider obligations summarized in <u>Paragraph 9</u> hereof and in <u>Appendix D</u> annexed hereto.

V. NEUTRAL INSPECTOR

- 12. East 124th shall enter into a contract with a neutral inspector approved by the United States ("Inspector") to conduct on-site inspections of all retrofits performed under this Consent Decree to determine whether modifications have been made in compliance with the specifications in the <u>Appendices A-1 and A-2</u>. The Inspector shall have expertise in the design and construction requirements of the FHA. The Inspector may be the same person as the Surveyor.
- 13. The Inspector may, upon request of East 124th, review and comment upon the sufficiency of all proposed retrofits in writing in advance of any retrofit by East 124th, but such review and comment shall be completed no later than thirty (30) days after the request.
- 14. An initial inspection of the Tapestry shall take place within the later of (a) thirty (30) days after the completion of all of the retrofits set forth in, respectively, **Appendices A-1 and A-2** (except for retrofits to be made at a resident's request), or (b) six (6) months prior to the expiration of this Consent Decree, or as soon thereafter as practicable.
- 15. For the initial inspection, East 124th shall give the United States at least twenty-one (21) days prior notice of the inspection and shall give the United States an opportunity to have its representative present for the inspection.
 - 16. The Inspector shall set out in writing the results of his or her inspection, including

Casses 4: 2525 vc 0 0042843 24 kl MV Document 1.8-2 File ite 0 1027/2725 Pageg 8 8 fo 9 9 9

any deficits, and shall send that report to East 124th and to the United States.¹ The report shall state whether the retrofits required by the applicable Appendix have been completed, and shall list any required retrofits that were not completed.

- 17. If the inspection indicates that not all of the required retrofits have been made as specified in the applicable Appendices, or retrofit proposals, East 124th shall use commercially reasonable efforts to correct any deficiencies for which East 124th are provided access within ninety (90) days and shall pay for another inspection by the same Inspector to certify that the deficiencies have been corrected. This process shall continue until the Inspector certifies that all of the necessary modifications for which East 124th has been provided access have been made. East 124th shall pay all of the Inspector's reasonable costs associated with these inspections, and such payments shall be made without regard to the Inspector's findings. Upon reasonable notice, representatives of the United States shall be permitted to inspect the modifications and/or the third-party inspection reports provided for in this Consent Decree, to ensure compliance.
- 18. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall relieve East 124th of its obligations to schedule inspections and/or correct deficiencies as set forth in this Section (including, but not limited to, inspection of the retrofits that East 124th is required to make prior to the expiration of this Consent Decree) even if such obligations extend beyond the term of this Consent Decree; provided, however, that, if an in-unit retrofit is on request of a resident of the unit and the resident refuses to allow the retrofit or refuses to vacate the unit so that the retrofit may not be made, East 124th shall be relieved of its obligation to perform such retrofit.

¹ For purposes of this Consent Decree, notices provided to the United States shall be addressed to Chief, Civil Rights Unit, Office of the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, 86 Chambers Street, Third Floor, New York, NY 10007. Electronic courtesy copies also shall be delivered to the undersigned Assistant United States Attorneys.

Case 1:25-cv-00483-AKH Document 21 Filed 04/29/25 Page 9 of 18

Casses 4: 2525 vc 0 00 42843 24 kl AV Document 1.8-2 File ited 10 27/2 725 Pageg 8 8 fo f 929

VI. TRANSFER OF INTEREST IN PROPERTIES

- 19. The sale or transfer of ownership, in whole or in part, of East 124th's interest(s) in the Tapestry, if any, shall not affect its continuing obligation to retrofit, and/or conduct or allow inspections or surveys of, the Tapestry as specified in this Consent Decree, unless East 124th has obtained in writing, as a condition of sale or transfer, the purchaser or transferee's commitment to assume such obligations, so that the purchaser or transferee will be bound by the terms of this Consent Decree to make retrofits and allow or conduct inspections or surveys as set forth in this Consent Decree, and will be subject to the jurisdiction of this Court.
- 20. Should East 124th decide to sell or transfer any of its ownership in the Tapestry, if any, in whole or in part, or any portion thereof, prior to the completion of the retrofits specified in this Consent Decree for the Tapestry, East 124th will, at least thirty (30) days prior to completion of the sale or transfer: (a) provide each prospective buyer with a copy of this Consent Decree and written notice that the Tapestry is subject to this Consent Decree, including specifically East 124th's obligations to either (*i*) complete required retrofit work and allow inspections, or (*ii*) assign such obligations to the purchaser or transferee by obtaining the purchaser or transferee's commitment to be bound by this Consent Decree, subject to the jurisdiction of this Court; and (b) provide to the United States, by email and first-class or overnight mail, written notice of the owner's intent to sell or transfer ownership, along with a copy of the notice sent to each buyer, and each buyer's name, address and telephone number.

VII. NON-DISCRIMINATION IN OTHER DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

21. East 124th shall design and construct all new Covered Multifamily Dwellings in full compliance with one of the following standards (each a "**Standard**"), where such a single Standard has been used in its entirety: (*i*) the Guidelines; or (*ii*) a standard that the Department of Housing

Case 1:25-cv-00483-AKH Document 21 Filed 04/29/25 Page 10 of 18

Cases 4: 2525 vc 0 0 428 3 3 kl AV Document 1 B-2 Fifeited 10 2 7 2 12 5 Pagag 4 0 1.0 fc 1999

and Urban Development has designated as an FHA safe harbor. During the term of this Consent Decree, upon reasonable notice, the United States will be permitted reasonable access to such properties to inspect for compliance with such standards, rules, and laws.

- 22. For each new Covered Multifamily Dwelling that East 124th constructs during the term of this Consent Decree ("New Construction"), East 124th shall retain an FHA compliance consultant (the "FHA Consultant") to help ensure that the as-constructed features at such properties comply with the FHA's Accessible Design Requirements.² East 124th shall direct its employees, agents, and/or contractors to seek the FHA Consultant's advice regarding the selection of appliances (*e.g.*, refrigerators and ranges) and fixtures (*e.g.*, doors, thresholds, and lavatories); the effect of deviations from the architects' plans on the accessibility of conditions at the Tapestry; as well as other issues that arise during construction that affect accessibility. Further, prior to the completion of construction of each building, East 124th shall arrange for the FHA Consultant to conduct a visit of the building to identify any construction issues that may result in inaccessible conditions and recommend appropriate solutions.
- that the FHA Consultant is being retained, in part, in connection with the FHA Reviewer's responsibilities under this Consent Decree. Further, within thirty (30) days of retaining the FHA Consultant for any New Construction during the term of this Consent Decree, East 124th shall provide a copy of this Consent Decree to the FHA Consultant and secure the signed statement from the FHA Consultant acknowledging that he or she has received and read this Consent Decree and has had an opportunity to have questions about this Consent Decree answered. This statement shall be substantially similar to the form of **Appendix G**.

² The FHA Consultant may be the same individual as the FHA Reviewer.

- 24. During the term of this Consent Decree, East 124th shall submit, on an annual basis, a certification to the counsel for the United States affirming that they have retained an FHA Consultant for each Covered Multifamily Dwelling under construction during that year and specifying each covered multifamily dwelling for which an FHA Consultant was retained by East 124th to provide advice and the identity (and affiliation, if applicable) of the FHA Consultant. East 124th shall provide this certification within 30 days of the end of each 12-month period from the entry of this Consent Decree.
- 25. During the term of this Consent Decree, East 124th shall maintain, and provide to the United States upon request, the following information and statements regarding any new multifamily dwellings intended to be developed, built, designed, and/or engineered in whole or in part, by East 124th or by any entities in which East 124th has a position of control as an officer, director, member, or manager, or has more than fifty percent (50%) ownership share:
 - the name and address of the project;
 - a description of the project and the individual units;
 - the name, address, and telephone number of the civil engineer(s) involved with the project;
 - a statement from the lead civil engineer(s) involved with the project acknowledging
 and describing his/her knowledge of and training in the requirements of the FHA and
 in the field of accessible site design, certifying that he/she has reviewed the engineering
 documents for site work for the project and that the design specifications therein fully
 comply with the requirements of the FHA, and stating a Standard with which the design
 specifications comply;
 - the name, address and telephone number of the architect(s) who are employed or

retained by East 124th and are involved with the project;

a statement from the lead disability accessibility professional employed or retained by East 124th, acknowledging and describing his/her knowledge of and training in the requirements of the FHA and the Guidelines, and in the field of accessible site design, certifying that he/she has reviewed the architectural plans for the project and that the design specifications therein substantially comply with the requirements of the FHA, and stating a Standard with which the design specifications comply.

VIII. PAYMENTS TO AGGRIEVED PERSONS

- 26. Within thirty (30) days of the entry of this Consent Decree, East 124th shall deposit in a separate account the sum of twenty-thousand (\$20,000) dollars for the purpose of compensating any aggrieved persons who may have suffered as a result of alleged discriminatory housing practices at the Tapestry. This deposited money shall be referred to as the "Initial Settlement Fund."
- 27. Within thirty (30) days of entry of this Consent Decree, East 124th shall place on its website a link to an electronic version of the Notice set forth in **Appendix E** in an Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format ("**PDF**"). The link should state "Accessibility Notice" and should appear on the upper half of the website, in a conspicuous font style and color.
- 28. Within thirty (30) days of the entry of this Consent Decree, East 124th shall send by electronic mail a copy of the **Appendix E** Notice to each present resident at the Tapestry. Within seventy-five (75) days of entry of this Consent Decree, East 124th shall provide the United States with proof that the **Appendix E** Notice has been sent. The United States may make its own efforts to locate and provide notice to potential aggrieved persons.

Case 1:25-cv-00483-AKH Document 21 Filed 04/29/25 Page 13 of 18

Casse 1:255 ve 0 0 0 0 2 3 4 1 A V Document 1 2 - 2 File te 1 10 2 17 2 1 5 2 5 Parage 1 3 1 6 1 5 9 9

29. East 124th shall permit the United States, upon reasonable notice, to review any records that may reasonably facilitate its investigations to locate allegedly aggrieved persons and make determinations regarding their potential claims. In addition, East 124th shall identify to the United States any persons who have claimed to be aggrieved by deficient accessibility at the Tapestry.

- 30. The United States shall investigate the claims of allegedly aggrieved persons and shall determine which persons are aggrieved and an appropriate amount of damages that should be paid to each such person. The United States will inform East 124th in writing of each of its determinations, together with a copy of a sworn declaration from each aggrieved person setting forth the factual basis of the claim. If the United States determines that the Initial Settlement Fund is insufficient to compensate all aggrieved persons at the Tapestry, the United States shall be entitled to make determinations that award aggrieved persons, in the aggregate, a total amount exceeding the Initial Settlement Fund, but not exceeding fifty-thousand (\$50,000.00) dollars in total.
- shall, within fourteen (14) days of receiving notice of a determination from the United States (a "Determination"), provide a written objection to the United States, along with any information or documents that they believe may refute the aggrieved person's claim. The United States shall give due consideration to any objections it receives from East 124th and shall submit, following any objection, its reconsidered determination (a "Reconsidered Determination") to East 124th, in writing, setting forth the aggrieved person and the amount that the aggrieved person shall be paid. If East 124th disputes the Reconsidered Determination, it may—within twenty (20) days after receiving the Reconsidered Determination—file an application with the Court to reinstate this case

Case 1:25-cv-00483-AKH Document 21 Filed 04/29/25 Page 14 of 18

East 124th who will be involved in the renting of units at the Tapestry shall, within 30 days after the date he or she commences an agency or employment relationship with East 124th, be given a copy of this Consent Decree by East 124th, and East 124th shall require each such new agent or employee to sign a statement, acknowledging that he or she has received and read this Consent Decree, and has had an opportunity to have questions about this Consent Decree answered. This statement shall be substantially similar to the form of **Appendix F**.

- 39. In lieu of providing individuals or entities with copies of this Consent Decree as required by the preceding Paragraphs of Section X, East 124th may instead provide a summary of this Consent Decree with the United States' advance written approval of the form and content of any proposed summary.
- 40. East 124th shall also ensure that its employees and agents who have supervisory authority over the design and/or construction of Covered Multifamily Dwellings have a copy of, are familiar with, and personally have reviewed, the Fair Housing Accessibility Guidelines, 56 Fed. Reg. 9472 (1991), and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Fair Housing Act Design Manual, A Manual to Assist Builders in Meeting the Accessibility Requirements of the Fair Housing Act (August 1996, Rev. April 1998). East 124th and its employees and agents whose duties, in whole or in part, involve the management, sale and/or rental of multifamily dwellings at issue in this case shall be informed of those portions of the FHA that relate to accessibility requirements, reasonable accommodations and reasonable modifications. The educational program provided to employees not engaged in design, construction, or maintenance, such as sales and rental employees, may focus on the portions of the law that relate generally to accessibility requirements as opposed to technical design and construction requirements.

Case 1:25-cv-00483-AKH Document 21 Filed 04/29/25 Page 15 of 18

41. Within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Consent Decree, East 124th and all employees and agents whose duties, in whole or in part, involve or will involve supervision over the development, design and/or construction of multifamily dwellings of the type at issue in this case shall undergo training on the design and construction requirements of the FHA. The training shall be conducted by a qualified third-party individual, not associated with East 124th or its counsel, and approved by the Department of Justice; and any expenses associated with this training shall be paid by East 124th. East 124th shall provide to the United States, thirty (30) days before the training, the name(s), address(es), and telephone number(s) of the trainer(s); and copies of any training outlines and materials to be distributed by the trainers. East 124th shall provide to the United States, thirty (30) days after the training, certifications executed by East 124th and covered employees and agents confirming their attendance, in a form substantially equivalent to **Appendix H**.

XI. NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

42. Within thirty (30) days of the date of entry of this Consent Decree, East 124th shall post and prominently display in the sales or rental offices of all Covered Multifamily Dwellings owned or operated by the East 124th, a sign no smaller than ten (10) by fourteen (14) inches indicating that all dwellings are available for rental on a nondiscriminatory basis. A poster that comports with 24 C.F.R. Part 110 will satisfy this requirement. One hundred and eighty (180) days after the date of entry of this Consent Decree and Order, East 124th shall submit to the United States an initial report regarding the signed statements of East 124th's employees and agents who have completed the training program specified in Section X of this Consent Decree. Thereafter, during the term of this Consent Decree, East 124th shall, on the anniversary of the entry of this Consent Decree, submit to the United States a report containing the signed statements of new employees and agents that, in accordance with Paragraph 38 of this Consent Decree, they have

received and read this Consent Decree or a summary thereof, and had an opportunity to have questions about this Consent Decree or such summary answered, except that the last report shall be due sixty (60) days prior to the anniversary.

- 43. For the term of this Consent Decree, East 124th shall advise the United States in writing within thirty (30) days of receipt of any written administrative or judicial fair housing complaint regarding any property owned, managed, and/or designed or constructed by them, or, to the extent known, against any employees or agents of East 124th working at or for any such property, regarding discrimination on the basis of disability in housing. Upon reasonable notice, East 124th shall also provide the United States all information it may request concerning any such complaint. East 124th shall also advise counsel for the United States, in writing, within thirty (30) days of the resolution of any complaint.
- 44. For the term of this Consent Decree, East 124th is required to preserve all records related to this Consent Decree for the Tapestry, the Additional Properties and any other Covered Multifamily Dwellings designed, constructed, owned, or acquired by them during the term of this Consent Decree. Upon reasonable notice to East 124th, representatives of the United States shall be permitted to inspect and copy any records of East 124th or inspect any developments or residential units under East 124th's control bearing on compliance with this Consent Decree during business hours, provided, however, that the United States shall endeavor to minimize any inconvenience to East 124th from such inspections.

XII. LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

45. East 124th is hereby notified that, in the event that it fails to substantially comply after notice and reasonable opportunity to cure with any of the terms of this Consent Decree and the United States obtains an order establishing such noncompliance, the United States may take

any appropriate action against East 124th, including but not limited to notifying the appropriate state housing finance agency of the violation. *See* 26 U.S.C. § 42(m)(1)(B)(iii).

XIII. TERM OF CONSENT DECREE

- 46. The term of this Consent Decree shall commence upon entry of this Consent Decree and, subject to the requirements of Sections III, V, and VIII above, expire two (2) years and six (6) months following such entry or 30 days from the date that the Inspector certifies that that all of the necessary modifications for which East 124th has been provided access have been made, whichever date is later.
- 47. By executing this Consent Decree, the Parties agree that in the event that East 124th engages in any future conduct during the term of this Consent Decree that leads to a determination of a violation of the FHA, such conduct shall constitute a "subsequent violation" pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 3614(d)(1)(C)(ii).
- 48. The term of this Consent Decree may be extended by the mutual written agreement of the Parties.
- 49. The Parties agree that the only appropriate remedy for either Party's failure to perform any non-monetary obligation contained in this Consent Decree is specific performance.
- 50. The United States and East 124th shall endeavor, in good faith, to resolve any differences regarding interpretation of and compliance with this Consent Decree prior to bringing such matters to the Court for resolution.

XIV. TIME FOR PERFORMANCE

51. Any time limits for performance imposed by this Consent Decree may be extended by the mutual written agreement of the United States and East 124th, the consent to which shall not be unreasonably denied or withheld.

XV. MISCELLANEOUS

- 52. The United States and East 124th will bear their own costs and attorney's fees associated with this litigation.
- 53. The United States and East 124th understand and agree that this Consent Decree and the appendices thereto contain the entire agreement between them, and that any statements, representations, promises, agreements, or negotiation, oral or otherwise, between the Parties or their counsel that are not included herein shall be of no force or effect.
- 54. This Action shall be dismissed upon entry of this Consent Decree, subject to the right of the Parties to reinstate the Action for noncompliance with the terms hereof.

By:

DATED: January 17, 2025

For East 124th Street LLC

CORI A. ROSEN

733 Third Avenue

Tel: (212) 551-8401

ROSENBERG & ESTIS, P.C.

New York, New York 10017

crosen@rosenbergestis.com

New York, New York

DATED: January 16, 2025 New York, New York

For the United States:

EDWARD Y. KIM

Acting United States Attorney

Bv: 9

DANIELLE J. MARRYSHOW

AMANDA LEE

Assistant United States Attorneys 86 Chambers Street, 3rd Floor

New York, New York 10007

Tel.: (212) 637-2689/2781

Danielle.Marryshow@usdoj.gov

Amanda.Lee2@usdoj.gov

DATED:

Vary Vary Navy Vari

New York, New York

SO ORDERED:

PTED STATES DISTRICT HUDGE

20